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CREATIVE FORCES: NEA MILITARY HEALING ARTS NETWORK

Research

An important component of the Creative Forces program are investments in research on the impacts and benefits – physical, emotional, economic – of these innovative treatment methods.

Creative Forces Clinical Research Summit

The **Creative Forces Clinical Research Summit** took place September 18-19, 2017 at the National Academies of Science in Washington, DC. The event was an opportunity to gather world-renowned experts to discuss clinical approaches to creative arts therapies, culminating in a conversation about a research agenda for the next five years as part of the Creative Forces: NEA Military Healing Arts Network.

Creative Forces Research Inventory: This document provides an inventory of all the completed, current, and pending research and clinical practice papers associated with Creative Forces.

Creative Forces Research and Clinical Practice Papers

This section provides links to published research and clinical practice papers associated with Creative Forces.

Art therapy interventions for active duty military service members with post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury

This paper provides an overview of short and long-term art therapy treatment approaches, used in the USA, for military service members with post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury. The described clinical approaches are based on the theoretical foundations and the art therapists' experiences in providing individualized care for the unique needs of the patient population. The art therapy models and directives are designed to be more therapist-led in the short-term model, moving on to an increasingly patient-led format in the long-term treatment model.

Art therapy for PTSD and TBI: A senior active duty military service member's therapeutic journey

This case study presents the therapeutic process through art therapy in the case of a senior active duty military service member (with chronic PTSD and TBI), in the context of an integrated model of care that included medical and complementary therapies.

Active-duty military service members' visual representations of PTSD and TBI in masks

Active-duty military service members have a significant risk of sustaining physical and psychological trauma resulting in traumatic brain injury (TBI) and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Within an interdisciplinary treatment approach at the National Intrepid Center of Excellence, service members participated in mask making during art therapy sessions. This study presents an analysis of the mask-making experiences of service members (n = 370) with persistent symptoms from combat and mission-related TBI, PTSD, and other concurrent mood issues.

The National Endowment for the Arts Guide to Community-Engaged Research in the Arts and Health

Responding to a need identified by the federal Interagency Task Force on the Arts and Human Development, the NEA commissioned this guide from the cognitive neuroscientist Julene Johnson, PhD, UCSF, and the arts consultant Jeff Chapline, New Art Horizons. It advises arts practitioners and biomedical or behavioral health researchers how to partner effectively in documenting and studying the contributions of community-based arts programs to positive health outcomes.



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